

**red roses
for my love**



**poetry by
edgar holmes**

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CHAPTERS

Chapter One

The Soil

Chapter Two

The Rain

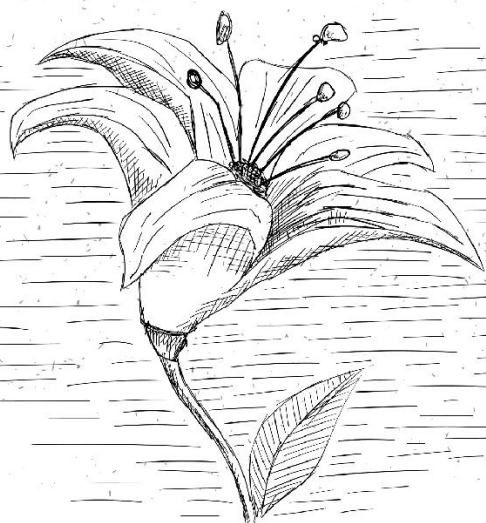
Chapter Three

The Sun

Chapter Four

My Lovely Rose

dedicated to my wife. as long as i write for you, my pen could never run dry.



Chapter One

The Soil

even

the most beautiful of flowers

beginning as a seed will never

bloom

if it is not planted in loving soil

the problem
with writing
about you
is that
there is nothing
more poetic
in this world
than the wordless way you look at me
in those small,
small, loving moments

you give
so much love
to everything
and everyone
on this earth
except yourself.

i like to think

there have been many times we have met before and not realized it
our fairy tale

is too perfect

not to include

some foreshadowing

often times

the simplest things in life

and in love

are the most beautiful singing as a choir a harmony of one

there will always be those in your life who want to convince you that
you owe them a piece of yourself despite the fact

that they give

nothing

in return

a cherished smile the sun shines

and there you are

there have been

many tears

shed

over the years

over past lovers

who never understood your true worth

my darling,

you bring the light with you

wherever you go

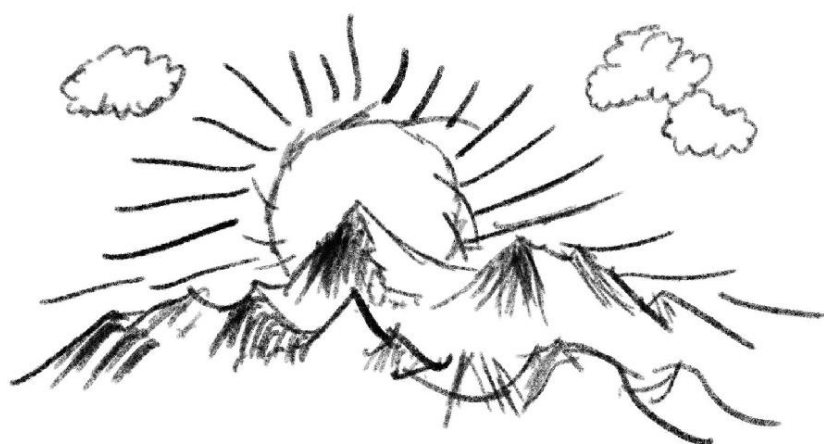
the places that ache with pain will one day be filled with a wondrous
joy the places that rain with sadness

will shine again

do not lose hope

do not despair

life waits for you.



some people

will always feel entitled to your time

never let someone lay claim

to any part of you that you do not want to share

when i met you

i instantly realized why some men

claim to see angels walking about

the earth

a song i sing

the simple things my love for you

goes on

in cloudy skies

i realize

the sun

was always you

i begun to count
the scars
as they added up
on my flesh
over the years
it began to seem
like they would never fade away
love was the salve that showed me
there was still
hope

by the light

of that fire

in your eyes

reflected

love showed me

who

you are.



i remember the time i found
one of your earrings left at my place
hope struck me
that you
would leave
more and more
of your things
and yourself
here
until eventually
almost by serendipity the life
i imagined with you would slowly
become reality

i have never promised you anything

but honesty

and so i would never hide from you

the truth

or the pain

nothing makes a man believe in god
quite as quickly
as being blessed
with the woman
of his dreams

sometimes
new life
comes disguised
as death
do not forget
that the winter
must die
for the new life
of spring
to take root

as you

blow on your coffee taking in the smell i look upon

the mountain peaks all around

and think

i couldn't have been more lucky.



the paint

the canvas

the brush

all my art

leads back to you.

as statues of angels come from blocks of granite you saw in me
a redeeming beauty i never even saw
myself.

excitement

isn't the only thing that matters, you know.

rollercoasters

are fun, once in a while but i would never want to live on one.

your last man

never listened

when you talked to him about your day at work or the drama

between co-workers i always wanted

to make a point

of showing you i care about even these

smallest of details.

the waves crash

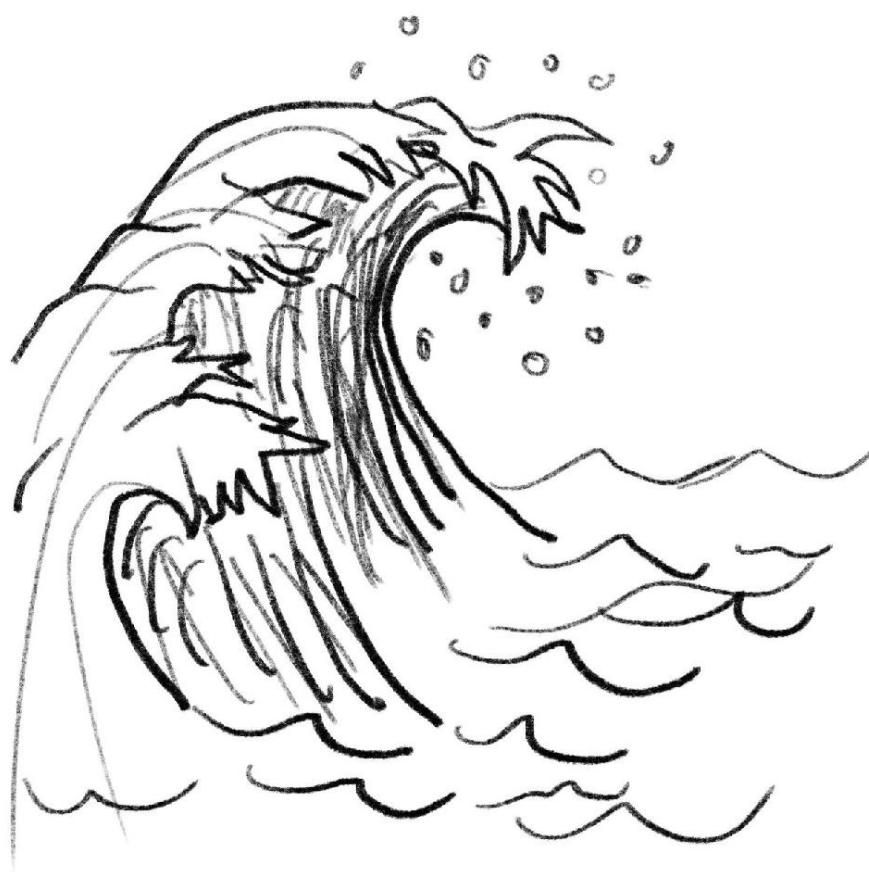
do you hear them?

or do they fade into a roar as they accumulate?

and so i wonder

in my life

if all i am will be lost to the noise of humanity



Chapter Two

The Rain

do not forget

though it is cold and drenches your clothes there would be no
beautiful flowers without the rain

have you ever bought a notebook with a beautiful design
and almost didn't want to write in it
for fear of ruining it?
loving you
was kind of like that.

the smell of a candle greeting you
as you walk through the door
tonight
will be made
of unforgettable memories



even the pain

of being

stuck in traffic

is assuaged

by your lovely presence

i have never seen a girl looking so innocent be so enthralled
with serial killers and catastrophes

nervous, stuttering unsure

new love

can be like that sometimes

i wish

that i

was a better

singer

so that i

could write you

songs

of love

it wasn't just about the sex

there was just something about the way

she laid there

satisfied

when we were done that made my heart melt a little more



sorrow proceeds

as if it were invited to be there

demanding its due taking the season as its own

closed

..

..

the wind

breezing through my fingers a peace

a simple, simple peace.

never entertain

the doubts that reach up towards you

from the depths

below

you are worth loving you are beautiful you are worth it.

fuck the odds

against us

fuck the possibility of failure

i need you.

fuck mozart and beethoven fuck van gogh and rembrant the most
beautiful art is your face

on the brink

of satisfaction



the gentle perfume of the ocean

the world

at peace

with itself

even if you fall
even if the rain
threatens to drown you do not forget
that you
are strong enough to rise above
the waves

every

story

has

its

middle

every

book

has

a

spine

your
story
is
never
over
even
when
life
is
dark

there is nothing

quite like

the simple pleasure of enjoying a cocktail on the beach

with the person

you love most



all

the things

we ever lost

before this time

will one day find their way back to us

think of the effortless way a freshly planted flower not needing to be told grows without a care and so also it is with you

sometimes
even though i have seen it a million times
i catch a glimpse of that ring
on your finger
and smile involuntarily every day
i grow more grateful that you are mine

true love

never takes you

for granted

it is only human

to struggle

with letting go

y o u .

(the world turns to slow motion)

d e s i r e .

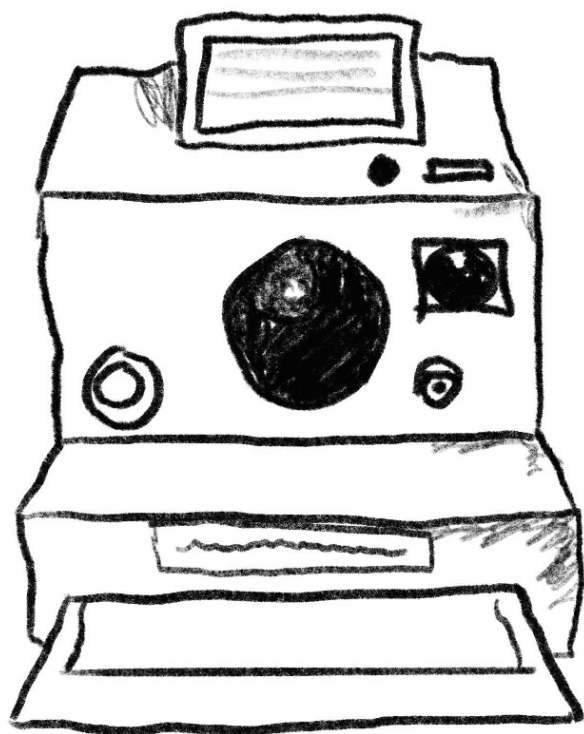
(burn my luck, it's you or nothing)

though i love

the convenience

of a smartphone picture nothing compares

to the raw moment that comes through in a polaroid



nice

though you pursue escape
you can never
get away
from the thing
deep within you
that makes you want to escape

the strongest branch is not the one

that holds fast

rigid and unmoving the strongest branch is the one

that flows with the wind flexible, at ease

i

don't

need

anything

else

on

this

earth

as

long

as

i

have

you

by

my

side

there is such

an anxiety

between

your

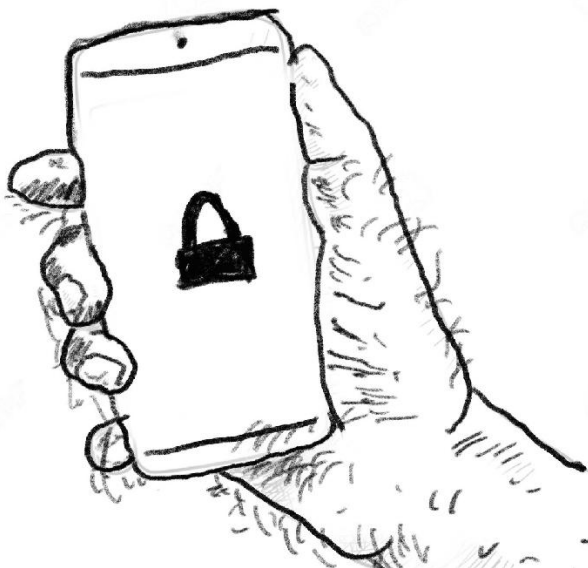
texts

the space

between them is filled with my doubts & insecurities

the true test of trust in a relationship is not the vulnerability of leaving your phone unlocked around them

the true test of trust in a relationship is being alone with their unlocked phone and not looking through it.



existential crisis looms questions

of what it means

to live life

suddenly you

pull me back

from the edge

you make everything real

no matter how

disoriented

i feel

i was never too good at mathematics

i found it confusing and unhelpful

but you did it

so effortlessly

and even though

i once despised it entirely;

even math

reflecting

a piece of you

is beautiful

somehow

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

you are loved

once upon a time

there was a man

who didn't yet

know himself

but the moment

you entered his life suddenly everything made sense

Chapter Three

The Sun

it's okay

for your dreams

to change

it's okay

for what you want to change

do not be afraid

of the changes

of life

because that's

what makes it

life

i never knew

what it was

about seeing you

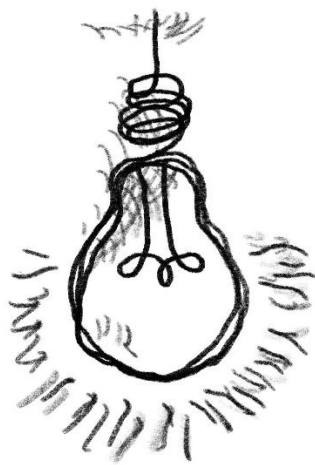
smoking a joint

off our hotel balcony in hawaii, at night the stars in full view i never
knew

exactly what about seeing you do this was so sexy

to me

reaching around
with my hands
groping
in the dark
not seeing
where i wanted
to go
i was lost
you
were the light
that showed me
the way



you and i

were pulled together irresistibly

and oh so naturally magnetic

the way

we fit together

take your burdens those heavy rocks from your shoulders lay them
down

at your feet

for just a moment breathe in

and out

slowly

you deserve

to feel the peace of this moment

bravery

does not prevent

fear

bravery

emerges from fear speaking out

declaring

you will not be moved

i wish that i

could watch

the dreams you dream in the night

i wish that i

could come along with you and fly among

galaxies and aliens with your innermost spirit

i love thinking back to those moments
two college kids
not knowing
a goddamn thing
but thinking
we knew
what life
was all about
smoking away the days oh what a ways we have come from then



just because

your life

includes sad chapters doesn't mean

it's a bad one

the loveliest stories are composed of ups and downs of challenges and trials your story

though it may

include sad chapters will have

the happy ending

you always wanted

the simplest days spent inside

with you

watching netflix

and just relaxing the simplest days with you

the simplicity

of us

immeasurably beautiful.

everything passes eventually

do not forget

that even

the longest night will eventually

give way

to sunlight

i am obsessed with you.

i didn't want to say it to freak you out

or scare you

but i must

tell you

the truth

i am obsessed

with you.

you are a rosebud there is immeasurable beauty waiting
within you
even if you can't see it just yet.



life

before you

was dark

and dead

you were the sun

that rose up

upon my life

laughing

and smiling

like typical tourists happily taking pictures on vacation

i didn't mind

looking like a fool i guess that's

just something that happens when you fall

in love

there are still

so many stories

so many truths

still left

to be uncovered

do not be afraid

of letting go

of comfortable ideas or ways of acting that you have

let go

of your preconceptions and try to find

the real truth

i remember
every rose
i have given you
they were each
special
in their own ways



the cosmos

is as much

within us

as it is

out there

in the night's sky

to know oneself
is as impossible
as holding sand
in the wind

the future

is not

set in stone

do not lose hope

there is still

so much left

to live for

as long

as i

have you

i will

always

have

enough

i made a wish
i wished for you
on the breeze
the seedlings blew



your love

makes even

the most mundane things feel

like a miracle

distance

is not an excuse

to get away

with things

distance

is an opportunity to prove your loyalty to each other

i had been feeling down for some time
as winter had
its hold on me
but on that day
i finally felt
the precious light of the sun
and smiled, for the first time in a long time.

love

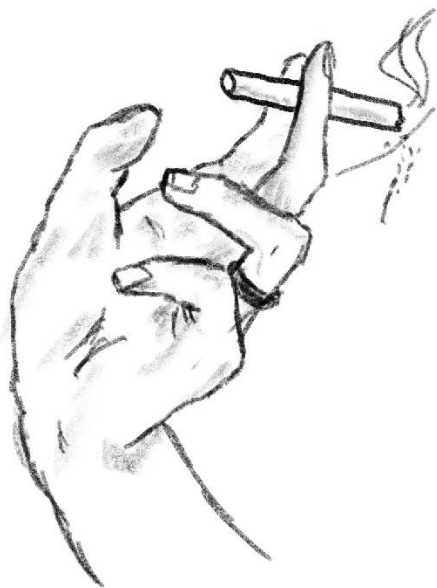
does not tame you love

makes you feel

wild

and free

simple moments
with you
doing everything
we were taught
never to do



Chapter Four

My Lovely Rose

i want

to slowly become

more and more

like you

she was the feeling of a midsummer night, the freedom racing through
my veins as i fall in love with you

watching you
engrossed in a book sipping your tea
i've never been
more in love



love people

for who

they are,

not just

what they do

for you.

i ponder

the mysteries

of the stars

wondering

what they know

that i

could never grasp

never forget -

love

is supposed

to make you feel

good

about yourself.

reuniting

with an old friend is like

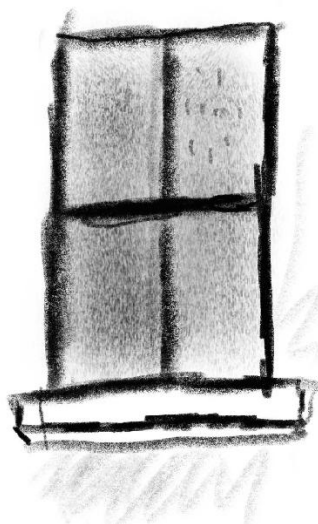
finding a twenty dollar bill in the pocket

of a jacket

you haven't worn

in a while

i traced my hand
along the glass
feeling the cold chill of the outside air held back
by this thin sheet i smiled
breathing in
the petrichor



be patient

with yourself

learning self love can be

a long

and difficult

process

don't just hear her when she speaks
listen.

do not forget

that even though

it doesn't seem like it sometimes

there are still

good people

left

in this dark world

as long as you love each other fearlessly, unafraid to be tested and to fight for what you have, everything will turn out okay.

we had only been dating two weeks at the time you suggested we go
skinny dipping

down by the beach as i saw you

getting in

to the water

i realized

you were so, so

out of my league



no matter the temptations you will always be the only one

i want

we
were destined
for one another
there is no
doubt
in my mind

you are strong enough for the life

you live

everyone else
is just a shadow
of the real thing you
are the only one
who matters

she loves me

she loves me not

the petals

fall to the floor



your strength
to overcome
every difficulty
is so much
greater
than you know

being with you

isn't just about

not being alone

it's so much more than that

being with you

brings out

the best

in me

you

are so full of giving so willing

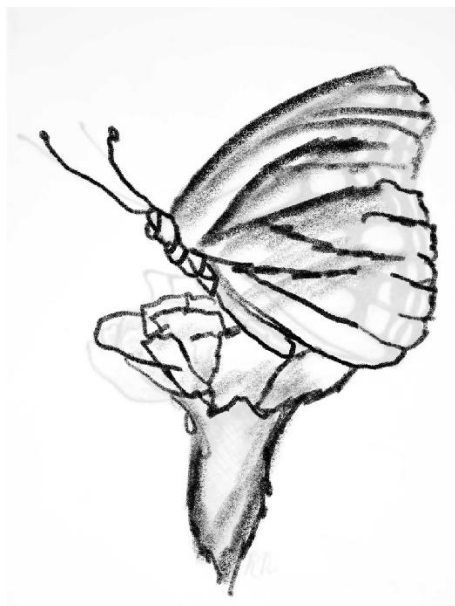
to be a good person but there is a limit to how much

you can give

just as you cannot give too much blood without dying

toxic people will eat away at the fabric of your soul; they will corrode even the shiniest surface into rust.

the joyous moment a caterpillar
turns into
a butterfly
you will have this moment too
one day



do not let anyone enter your life
who believes
that treating you with the respect
and loyalty
you deserve
is merely
optional

you are such a lovely person glowing with love some people just want
to sit in your light and soak it up

without ever giving anything back

you may feel

like you

are nothing special but one day

the one for you

will look at you

and see

everything

they were waiting all their life for

be forgiving

but not a pushover be strong

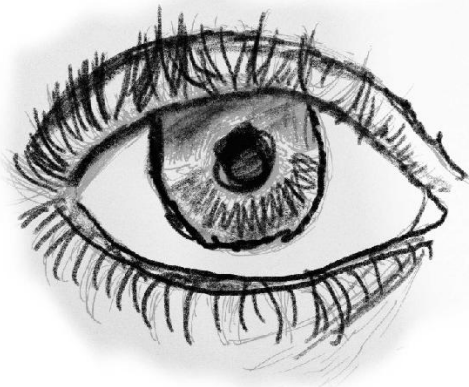
but not arrogant

be loving

but keep your standards

her eyes-you could spend a lifetime looking into those eyes and never
run out of new details

to fall in love with



as long as i am alive you will always have fresh flowers on your
dresser to greet you when you get home

rose petals were your path from the front door, the room dark and quiet save for the gentle glow of candlelight and light music in the background.

you followed the path, a smile tugging at the corners of your lips. a bath filled with bubbles, a glass of wine at the ready for you.

i would do anything to make your day better, to help you feel like the world isn't quite so burdensome as it feels sometimes. i want to lift the weight from your shoulders and let you rest.

i love you, my darling.

thank you so much for reading my third poetry collection. i feel that this is my most personal collection to date, and i hope that even though it is so personal to me, you will still find some of yourself in these pages as well.

never give up on love, my friends. never give up on your dreams of being loved for exactly who you are, by a partner who loves and truly understands you. never give up on this life.

all my love,

-edgar holmes

p.s.

you can find me on instagram

@edgarholmespoetry